

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An electrolyte composition comprising a polymer compound including repetitive units of a structure of the following general formula (1), and a salt of a metal ion of Group 1 or 2 of the Periodic Table:

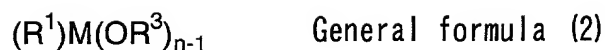


wherein  $R^1$  represents one of a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group and a substituted or unsubstituted alkoxy group;  $R^2$  represents a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group; at least one of  $R^1$  and  $O-R^2$  includes a substituent including an alkoxycarbonyl group; M represents silicon, boron or a metal element; and n represents the valence of M.

2. The electrolyte composition according to claim 1, wherein M in general formula (1) represents silicon.

3. The electrolyte composition according to claim 1, wherein  $R^1$  in general formula (1) represents a substituted or unsubstituted alkoxy group.

4. The electrolyte composition according to claim 1, wherein the polymer compound comprises a product prepared by reacting a compound of the following general formula (2), with a hydroxyl group-containing carboxylic acid:



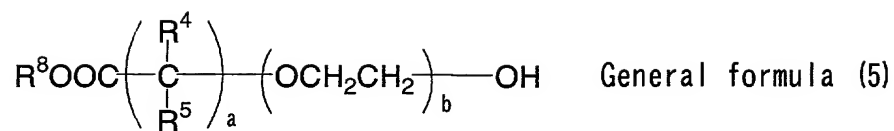
wherein  $R^1$  represents one of a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group and a substituted or unsubstituted alkoxy group; M represents silicon, boron or a metal element; n represents the valence of the element represented by M; and  $R^3$  represents a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group.

5. The electrolyte composition according to claim 1, wherein the polymer compound comprises a product prepared by reacting a polymer compound that includes repetitive units of a structure of the following general formula (4) with an alkoxycarbonyl group-having alcohol compound:



wherein  $R^6$  represents one of a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group and a substituted or unsubstituted alkoxy group;  $R^7$  represents a substituted or unsubstituted alkoxy group; M represents silicon, boron or a metal element; and n represents the valence of M.

6. The electrolyte composition according to claim 5, wherein the alkoxycarbonyl group-having alcohol compound comprises an alkoxycarbonyl group-having alcohol compound represented by the following general formula (5):



wherein  $\text{R}^8$  represents a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group;  $\text{R}^4$  and  $\text{R}^5$  each independently represent a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group;  $a$  represents an integer from 1 to 5; and  $b$  represents an integer from 0 to 30.

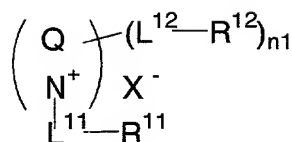
7. The electrolyte composition according to claim 6, wherein, in general formula (5),  $a$  is 1 and  $b$  is 0.

8. The electrolyte composition according to claim 6, wherein  $\text{R}^4$  and  $\text{R}^5$  in general formula (5) each represent a hydrogen atom.

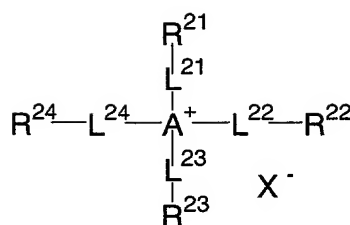
9. The electrolyte composition according to claim 1, wherein the electrolyte composition has been crosslinked by reacting with a compound having at least two nucleophilic groups in the molecule.

10. An electrolyte composition comprising a molten salt, a silicon polymer, and a salt of a metal ion of Group 1 or 2 of the Periodic Table.

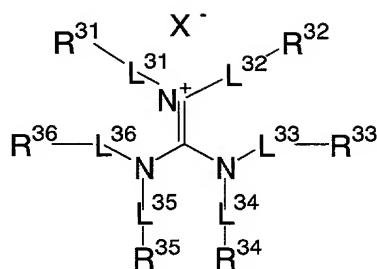
11. The electrolyte composition according to claim 10, wherein the molten salt comprises a compound represented by at least one of the following general formulae (6), (7) and (8):



General formula (6)



General formula (7)



General formula (8)

wherein, in general formula (6), Q represents an atomic group capable of forming a 5-membered or 6-membered aromatic cation with the nitrogen atom of the general formula;  $L^{11}$  and  $L^{12}$  each independently represent one of a substituted or unsubstituted alkylene group, a substituted or unsubstituted alkenylene group, a substituted or unsubstituted alkyleneoxy group or a divalent linking group formed of repetitions thereof, a substituted or unsubstituted alkenyleneoxy group or a divalent linking group formed of repetitions thereof, or a divalent linking group formed of a combination of a plurality of the groups;  $R^{11}$  represents a hydrogen atom or a substituent;  $R^{12}$  represents a hydrogen atom or a substituent;  $n1$  represents an integer of 0 or from 1 to the maximum number of  $(L^{12}-R^{12})$  groups substitutable on Q;  $X^-$  represents an anion; if  $n1$  is 2 or more, the  $(L^{12}-R^{12})$  groups may be the same as or different from one another; and two or more of the  $R^{11}$  and  $R^{12}$  may be bonded to each other to form a cyclic

structure,

in general formula (7),  $L^{21}$ ,  $L^{22}$ ,  $L^{23}$  and  $L^{24}$  have the same meaning as  $L^{11}$  in general formula (6);  $R^{21}$ ,  $R^{22}$ ,  $R^{23}$  and  $R^{24}$  each independently represent a hydrogen atom or a substituent; two or more of  $R^{21}$ ,  $R^{22}$ ,  $R^{23}$  and  $R^{24}$  may be bonded to each other to form a cyclic structure; and A represents a nitrogen or phosphorus atom, and

in general formula (8),  $L^{31}$  to  $L^{36}$  have the same meaning as  $L^{11}$  in general formula (6);  $R^{31}$  to  $R^{36}$  each independently represent a hydrogen atom or a substituent; and two or more of  $R^{31}$  to  $R^{36}$  may be bonded to each other to form a cyclic structure.

12. The electrolyte composition according to claim 11, wherein the 5-membered or 6-membered aromatic cation that Q is capable of forming with the nitrogen atom in general formula (6) comprises one of an imidazolium cation and a pyridinium cation.

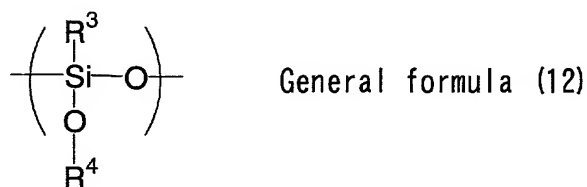
13. The electrolyte composition according to claim 10, wherein the silicon polymer comprises repetitive units of a structure of the following general formula (11):



wherein  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  each independently represent one of an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an aryl group, and an aryloxy group; and X represents one of an oxygen atom, a nitrogen atom, an alkylene group, a phenylene group, a

silicon atom and a metal atom, or an atomic group combination thereof.

14. The electrolyte composition according to claim 13, wherein the silicon polymer including repetitive units of a structure of general formula (11) comprises repetitive units of a structure of the following general formula (12):

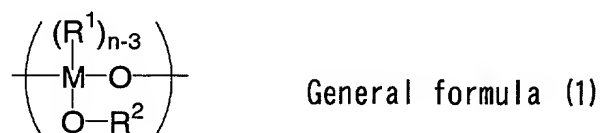


wherein R<sup>3</sup> represents one of an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an aryl group and an aryloxy group; and R<sup>4</sup> represents one of an alkyl group and an aryl group.

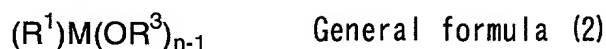
15. A method for producing an electrolyte composition, the method comprising the steps of:

preparing a polymer compound including repetitive units of a structure of the following general formula (1), which includes reacting a compound of the following general formula (2) with a hydroxyl group-having carboxylic acid; and

adding a salt of a metal ion of Group 1 or 2 of the Periodic Table to the polymer compound:



wherein, in general formula (1),  $R^1$  represents one of a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group and a substituted or unsubstituted alkoxy group;  $R^2$  represents a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group; at least one of  $R^1$  and  $O-R^2$  includes a substituent including an alkoxycarbonyl group; M represents silicon, boron or a metal element; and n represents the valence of M, and



in general formula (2),  $R^1$  represents one of a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group and a substituted or unsubstituted alkoxy group; M represents silicon, boron or a metal element; n represents the valence of the element represented by M; and  $R^3$  represents a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group.

16. A method for producing an electrolyte composition, the method comprising the steps of:

preparing a polymer compound including repetitive units of a structure of the following general formula (1), which includes reacting a polymer compound having repetitive units of a structure of the following general formula (4), with an alkoxycarbonyl group-having alcohol compound; and

adding a salt of a metal ion of Group 1 or 2 of the Periodic Table to the polymer compound:

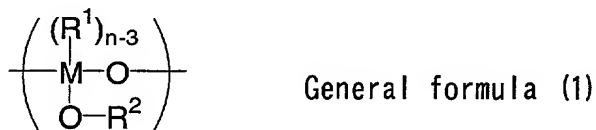


wherein, in general formula (1), R<sup>1</sup> represents one of a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group and a substituted or unsubstituted alkoxy group; R<sup>2</sup> represents a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group; at least one of R<sup>1</sup> and O-R<sup>2</sup> includes a substituent including an alkoxycarbonyl group; M represents silicon, boron or a metal element; and n represents the valence of M, and



in general formula (4), R<sup>6</sup> represents one of a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group and a substituted or unsubstituted alkoxy group; R<sup>7</sup> represents a substituted or unsubstituted alkoxy group; M represents silicon, boron or a metal element; and n represents the valence of M.

17. A non-aqueous electrolyte secondary cell comprising an electrolyte composition, a positive electrode and a negative electrode, the electrolyte composition coupling the electrodes to one another, and the electrolyte composition including a polymer compound including repetitive units of a structure of the following general formula (1), and a salt of a metal ion of Group 1 or 2 of the Periodic Table:





wherein  $R^1$  represents one of a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group and a substituted or unsubstituted alkoxy group;  $R^2$  represents a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group; at least one of  $R^1$  and  $O-R^2$  includes a substituent including an alkoxycarbonyl group; M represents silicon, boron or a metal element; and n represents the valence of M.

18. A non-aqueous electrolyte secondary cell comprising an electrolyte composition, a positive electrode and a negative electrode, the electrolyte composition coupling the electrodes to one another, and the electrolyte composition including a molten salt, a silicon polymer, and a salt of a metal ion of Group 1 or 2 of the Periodic Table.